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WEATHER REPORT.

Western Oregon and Western Washington—Increasing cloudiness with light rain near the north coast.

FINANCIAL REACTION.

There is a good deal said nowadays about the coming of "hard times"; that they are overdue; that the ordinary decade has passed that generally heralds the reaction; that it is due, and therefore inevitable; and a multitude of other reasons and causes for its imminence. This is all bosh. The fact that its date for asserting itself has gone by, by over two years, is significant of lessons learned. It is prima facie evidence of a new wisdom in the conduct of all manner of businesses; a better conception of the necessities incident to the manipulation of money, contracts, and all the engagements that go to make the national commercial career. The people that does not profit by the worst of its experiences, to guard against their repetition by every expedient within the limit of their concept, both backward, and forward, is not worthy of any access in fortune or commercial stability and progress. Astoria repudiates the bogey, and expects to flourish uninterruptedly and in the most patent fashion, despite all "howls."

"KILL THE HOG!"

Every time a citizen does an unselfish act in behalf of the community in which he lives, he "kills the hog" of human greed and proves himself a loyal member of the populace. The only evil that outspoken public spirit has to contend with, is the inherent selfishness and jealousy of the man who can see no virtue in an improvement that does not materially and directly benefit him and his property. This is the death-blow of many a fine deal whereby the general public might have taken on fixed and gratifying advancement, and it is the one thing always to the forefront of concerted effort to push a community ahead. The death of the "Astoria hog," if such an animal exists, is a prerequisite to the good work mapped out for the city in the near future. Public spirit means the relegation of private interest to the rear of all large questions, and its evanishment can only be wrought by the prompt rebuke of every essay it makes to foist itself to the front. Kill it, rebuke it, swat it, hawl it out, do any old thing to shove it down and out of sight; and then go ahead!

PROPHET OF DISASTER.

In "Man and the Earth," Prof. N. S. Shaler takes the view that luxuriant living will rapidly exhaust the resources of the earth and that within a few centuries not only will the race find itself short of important minerals and plants but of food itself. Four centuries ago the average consumption of coal in Europe and America was only one pound per capita; today it is two tons. The supply in sight will not last over the twenty-third century at this rate. Iron during the same period increases from a pound to 500 pounds and the supply already is limited. Tillage is becoming so general that the solu-

able minerals have been extracted from the earth in large tracts, impoverishing the soil irreparably. Irrigation and reclamation of morass and sea lands are assets and the earth still could feed twice its present population for several centuries. There is enough gold and silver for eternity, apparently, and some copper in sight. But wood is dwindling and unless supervised by government, will soon disappear. Professor Shaler draws the conclusion that race suicide will increase with luxurious living and that therefore the earth's available supply for human necessities will stretch out definitely. Whatever Professor Shaler makes from the sale of his book should be easy money.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

They say England imports \$30,000,000 worth of eggs every year. How many of them do you furnish?

Miss Alice Roosevelt has given her personal check for \$1206 as tariff on presents received while in the far east.

Football slugging matches are ended for the year with a total of nineteen killed, 125 badly injured and many other cases not reported.

Among the new organizations in New York City is a Skunk Club. The presumption is that it is small and exclusive, but powerful.

A Des Moines Woman's club is advocating "fewer but better babies." Good babies form the raw material for good men and women.

A Kansas City judge says silk skirts are mere flattery and not necessary. His wife he stated, wore skirts worth \$3 and went out into society, too.

And now after moving into the new postoffice building in Chicago, they want Congress to give up \$150,000 for the construction of lifts, whatever they are.

Secretary Shaw says that we want a more elastic currency. Right you are, Mr. Secretary. Something that will stretch from one pay day to another.

Questions for somebody to answer: Why should some of the big corporation officials draw salaries two or three times as large as the salary of the President of the United States?

Chicago is progressing. It has built over forty-seven miles of structures during the last calendar year. This real estate transactions during the year amounted to \$140,000,000.

If Germany were to mobilize her army tomorrow, the Dusseldorf chamber of commerce states that there would not be a sufficient quantity of meat in the country to feed the army in the field.

Many potatoes are arriving in this country from Scotland, Ireland, etc. This, we think, will somewhat discourage the upward tendency of potato prices here, and maintain a steady market for a while at least.

The postoffice department has served notice on the railroads that in the future all mail trains on the branch roads which are late will cause a fine to be imposed by the government. This order has been made necessary on account of the inferior service rendered by the railroads on their branch lines.

All records for Christmas mail destined for Europe were broken on the 16th when 4500 sacks all filled with Christmas gifts and about 2,000,000 letters were sent aboard the steamers. In fourteen days. There has been sent away to Europe in money orders, \$4,142,080.

According to the last religious census of the United States, there are in this country not less than 145 distinct denominations, or church bodies, coming under the name of Protestant. The Presbyterians themselves are subdivided into seventeen bodies, the Methodists into twelve and Lutherans into fourteen.

More than \$30,000,000 worth of diamonds and other precious stones have been imported into the United States during the last calendar year. This is by far the largest importation in the history of the country, the high-water mark in the earlier years being \$28,500,000 in 1903, while 1904 showed but \$27,750,000.

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905 there were three hundred and fifty-seven fraud orders issued by Postmaster-General Cortelyou. This was more than twice the number of any previous year and was due to the increased vigilance of the post office department and

the more rigid enforcement of the laws against fraudulent concerns.

The consumption of horse and dog flesh as human food continues to increase in Germany, where pork has reached an almost prohibitive price. The official figures show that 28,907 horses were slaughtered for human food last year, against 23,627 in the previous twelve months. This, however, did not include horses similarly slaughtered by private persons. Dogs killed for human food numbered 1017 against 762 in the previous year.

There is no more important bill before Congress today than the Latimer Brownlow Good Roads bill, which appropriates twenty-four millions of dollars on the nation's roads, to be expended in the next three years, one-half to be furnished by the states and the other half by the general government. Germany has 32,000 miles of superb roads, England 35,000 miles, France 38,000 miles. The United States, the richest of all of them, has not a mile except in cemeteries and parks.

The bureau of statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor estimates that the aggregate commerce between the United States and the Philippine Islands for the calendar year 1905 will amount to about \$20,000,000, against about \$15,000,000 in 1904, \$10,000,000 in 1900 and \$4,000,000 in 1898. Prior to 1898 the exports from the United States to the Philippines never exceeded \$250,000, while in the present year they will aggregate nearly \$6,000,000. The imports in 1905 are chiefly hemp and sugar.

In 1906 no holidays will occur on Sunday. New Year's day will be on Monday, Washington's birthday on Thursday. Memorial day on Wednesday, Independence day on Wednesday and Labor day on Monday. Other special days are Valentine's day on Wednesday, Halloween on Wednesday, Thanksgiving, November 29th, and Christmas on Tuesday. There will be only one eclipse, that of the moon, visibly in this locality during the year. This will be at midnight on February 8th. The eclipse will be total, and if the weather is clear and the sleighing good there will be a formidable excuse for staying out a little late.

TALK IT OVER.

With People You Know—With Astoria People.

No evidence can be stronger than the direct testimony of people you know. The public expression of friends and neighbors is the proof of merit we offer. If you still remain a skeptic talk it over with this testifier.

D. E. Duncan who is employed with his brother at the Astoria Soda Works, 426 Duane street, and who resides at the corner of Duane and Ninth streets, says: "I had been troubled with a weakness of the back and kidneys for a number of years. There was a constant dull aching pain in the loins and as far up as the shoulders. Not only did my back ache but there was a weakness from the kidney secretions which very annoying and disturbed my rest. I heard about Doan's Kidney Pills and one day I stepped into Charles Rogers' drug store and got a box. I found them to be a great benefit. After the first few doses I felt better. I know of others who have used them with the same good results."

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Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Charles Johnson, of Chinook, was in the city yesterday.

J. Q. A. BOWLEY, President. FRANK PATTON, Cashier.
O. I. PETERSON, Vice-President. J. W. GARNER, Assistant Cashier.

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T. A. Holden, of Gray's River was a business visitor in Astoria yesterday and he reports that the freshets consequent upon the late rains, were bringing the logs down in great numbers, a condition that renders the loggers rejoice.

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10th and Commercial